Amendments to the Specification:

Please enter the Sequence Listing that applicants submitted with a Preliminary Amendment filed on April 29, 2002 as the Sequence Listing for the subject application.

On page 1, after the title, please add the following new paragraph:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/595,553, filed February 1, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 6,391,579 B1, issued May 21, 2002, the contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

Please amend the paragraph on page 7, lines 1-15, to read as follows:

Figure 2 represents complementary nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequences of the rat sodium/iodide symporter cDNA ~~(SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO:2, respectively)~~. Nucleotides (SEQ ID NO:1) are numbered in the 5' to 3' direction beginning with the first base of the cloned cDNA. Untranslated sequences are in lower case and translated sequences in upper case letters. The deduced amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:2) (single letter code) is shown below the nucleotide sequence. The twelve putative membrane-spanning domains are shaded in grey. Three potential N-linked glycosylation sites are indicated in bold type (positions 225, 485 and 497). One putative intracellular consensus sequence for cAMP-dependent protein kinase A phosphorylation is boxed (positions 549-552). A polyadenylation signal in the 3' untranslated domain is underlined (position 2795).

Please amend the paragraph on page 11, lines 19-33, to read as follows:

The present invention also provides nucleic acid probes and mixtures thereof which are hybridizable to sodium/iodide symporter. Nucleic acid probes may be prepared by a variety of techniques known to those skilled in the art such as PCR and restriction enzyme digestion of sodium/iodide nucleic acid or by automated

synthesis of oligonucleotides whose sequence correspond to selected portions of the nucleotide sequence of the sodium/iodide symporter nucleic acid using commercially available oligonucleotide synthesizers such as the APPLIED BIOSYSTEMS® ~~Applied Biosystems~~ Model 392 DNA/RNA synthesizer. The nucleic acid probes of the present invention may also be prepared so that they contain one or more point, insertion or deletion mutations or a combination thereof to correspond to mutations of the sodium/iodide symporter gene.

Please amend the paragraph on page 20, lines 19-24, to read as follows:

A nucleic acid contained in the vector pSPORT was identified as containing the entire coding region of the rat sodium/iodide symporter and was designated pNIS. pNIS was deposited under the terms of the Budapest Treaty with the American Tissue Culture Collection (ATCC) located at 10801 University Blvd., Manassas, VA 20110-2009 on February 1, 1996 under ATCC Designation No. 97431. ~~under Accession No._____ on _____~~.